

**TOWN OF ELSMERE
COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Deborah A. Norkavage called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR	DEBORAH A. NORKAVAGE	PRESENT
1 ST DISTRICT	JOHN JAREMCHUK, JR.	PRESENT
2 ND DISTRICT	STEVEN BURG	PRESENT
3 RD DISTRICT	THOMAS S. NOVAK, JR.	PRESENT
4 TH DISTRICT	CHARLES MCKEWEN	PRESENT
5 TH DISTRICT	JOANN I. PERSONTI	PRESENT
6 TH DISTRICT	JOHN N. PASQUALE, JR.	PRESENT

Town Manager, John Giles – Present
Town Solicitor, Edward McNally – Present
Chief Scott McLaren – Present

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor and Council considered for Third and Final Reading as well as a Public Hearing of Ordinance 523.

An Ordinance amending Chapter 155 of the Code of the Town of Elsmere concerning the use of Town parklands.

Mayor Norkavage read the synopsis of Ordinance 523.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Jaremchuk to approve for Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 523. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pasquale.

VOTE:

All in favor

Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor and Council considered discussing the position of a part-time Code Enforcement Officer.

Town Manager, John Giles explained when it was first considered to hire a part-time Code Officer, one of the duties that person was to have been responsible for was to enforce parking regulations throughout the Town. It has since been brought to his attention that the Delaware Code prohibits a Code Enforcement Officer from doing so. He further stated he is still asking for permission to hire a part-time Code Officer.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Novak to approve the hiring of a part-time Code Officer. The motion was seconded by Councilman McKewen.

VOTE:

All in favor

Motion carried

Mayor and Council considered Resolution 10-13.

A Resolution expressing the Mayor and Council's opposition to the application made to NCC by Stoltz Real Estate Partners known as application number 2008-0275-S, also known as Barley Mill Plaza.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Jaremchuk to adopt Resolution 10-13. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Personti.

Councilman Jaremchuk expressed his concerns about the pending project in regards to additional flooding hazards in our area. Even though he had been advised that it would not be in a flood zone, he disagrees and feels the people should be made aware of this.

Mayor Norkavage agreed that additional flooding to the Town would be a major impact on the Town.

Councilman McKewen asked what sort of impact there would be.

Councilman Jaremchuk reported when you are building a project this large it is bound to have some affect. He further stated he didn't believe they could build enough retention ponds to capture all the additional run-off that is going to be generated by this project.

Councilman Novak requested to have the name "DuPont" stricken under the first "Whereas" of Resolution 10-13.

Councilman Jaremchuk stated without any objection, they can omit the name "DuPont".

VOTE:

1st District Councilman Jaremchuk – Yes, 2nd District Councilman Burg – Yes, 3rd District Councilman Novak – Abstain, 4th District Councilman McKewen – Yes, 5th District Councilwoman Personti – Yes, 6th District Councilman Pasquale – Yes, Mayor Norkavage – Yes

VOTE: 6 – 0, with 1 – Abstained

Motion carried

Councilman Novak abstained from the vote due to being a facilities consultant for the aforementioned site and does not want to get involved.

Councilwoman Personti requested permission to write a letter to the editor to publicly oppose this project as well as forwarding information on to County Council.

Mr. Giles agreed to forward the information to County Council per Mayor and Council's request.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Code:

Mr. Giles reported several individuals have been interviewed for the part-time position as Code Officer, and a decision should be made tomorrow. He further reported sweeps have been occurring in the 3rd and 4th Districts.

Finance:

Mr. Giles reports things are getting straightened out and cleaned up in the Finance Department. He further commended Finance Director, Joseph Schulcz on submitting application requesting a grant for a new heating system.

Mr. Giles discussed issues regarding the tax bill mailing and that a reminder letter was also mailed out to all property owners since numerous residents had phone in stating they did not received their 2010-2011 tax bill. He further stated he will meet with the Postmaster to express our concerns regarding this situation.

Public Safety:

Chief McLaren reported on issues that occurred in the area. One incident in particular was in regards to a suicidal missing person that was located by a Public Works employee. He further stated he will try to get this type of information to them as soon as possible in the future.

Chief McLaren also reported on the following: the Police Department is gearing up for the Movies in the Parks with some giveaways for the kids; the Firehouse will advertise that school is open and to slow down; the Seasonal Officer's were done as of a few days ago, but he would like to look into extending this program; cost cutting with Cavalier Phone Services by looking into a new contract; is looking into a bulk rate mailing for a survey; Red Clay will have an increase of 100 people stationed at Baltz School; provided a comparison study of crime stats compared to last year and this year which he will attach it to October's Meeting Report.

Councilwoman Personti asked about the student ratio for enrollments.

Chief McLaren reported on the information that was provided at the meeting the student ratio was between 500-600, but they believed it may possibly decrease.

Chief McLaren commented in regards to the Seasonal Officers, there were monies left over but he would look for further funding.

Councilmen Burg and Novak expressed their support to Chief McLaren regarding the Seasonal Officers.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Burg to authorize Chief McLaren to exceed his budget to keep the summer officer's through the end of the calendar year. The motion was seconded by Councilman McKewen.

VOTE:

1st District Councilman Jaremchuk – Abstained, 2nd District Councilman Burg – Yes, 3rd District Councilman Novak – Yes, 4th District Councilman McKewen – Yes, 5th District Councilwoman Personti – Yes, 6th District Councilman Pasquale – Yes, Mayor Norkavage – Yes

VOTE: 6 – 0, with 1 – Abstained

Motion carried

Councilman Jaremchuk abstained due to his daughter being a seasonal officer.

Chief McLaren explained the reasoning for not getting funding for the seasonal officer's this year was due to us missing the cut off period.

Public Works:

Mr. Giles reported the curbs are being painted. The Summer Youth Program will be ending shortly but there will be a couple of eighteen (18) year olds that will be starting soon in their place.

Town Manager's Report:

Mr. Giles reported a bulletin board will be posted out front in order for the public to have access to public notices, etc.

Mr. Giles reported the movie Grease had to be cancelled due to a new version had been released since the original version.

Mr. Giles gave an update on the progress of the Dog Park. He further stated work is being done at the park and it should open in 2011.

Mr. Giles gave a brief update on the positive outcome of the Business Association Meeting.

Mr. Giles requested to go into a short Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and not return to Public Session.

Mayor Norkavage reported she received an invitation to the Firehouse Open House.

Mr. Giles reported the Christmas Parade will be held on December 4, 2010, and the Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on December 3, 2010. Therefore, the sign on the highway needs to be removed since it does state the parade is held on the second Sunday in December.

Mayor Norkavage requested Mr. Giles to send out invitations to neighboring Mayor's regarding Movies in the Parks and for rental advertisement.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

Councilman Burg commented that the curbs look good.

Councilman Novak requested to meet with Chief McLaren regarding nuisance properties, and further requested a report by street.

Councilwoman Personti mentioned the former skating rink had recently been re-painted.

Councilman Pasquale received numerous complaints regarding 603 New Road, in reference to a lot of people hanging out there and it was also requested to be raided.

Mr. Giles reported the stop sign had been installed by the Public Works Department on Linden Avenue.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Novak to adjourn and go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and not return to Public Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pasquale.

VOTE:

All in favor

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

These minutes summarize agenda and other issues discussed at this Council Meeting. Votes are recorded accurately. The audio tape(s) of this meeting will be available at Town Hall for a period of two years from the date these minutes are approved. The audio tapes may be reviewed at Town Hall by appointment and in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**DEBORAH A. NORKAVAGE
MAYOR**

**JOANN I. PERSONTI
SECRETARY**